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On Tiaporus, a New Genus of Teiidae.

By E. D. Cope.

(Read before the American Philosophical Society, March 4, 1892.)

TIAPORUS FULIGINOSUS, gen. et sp. nov.

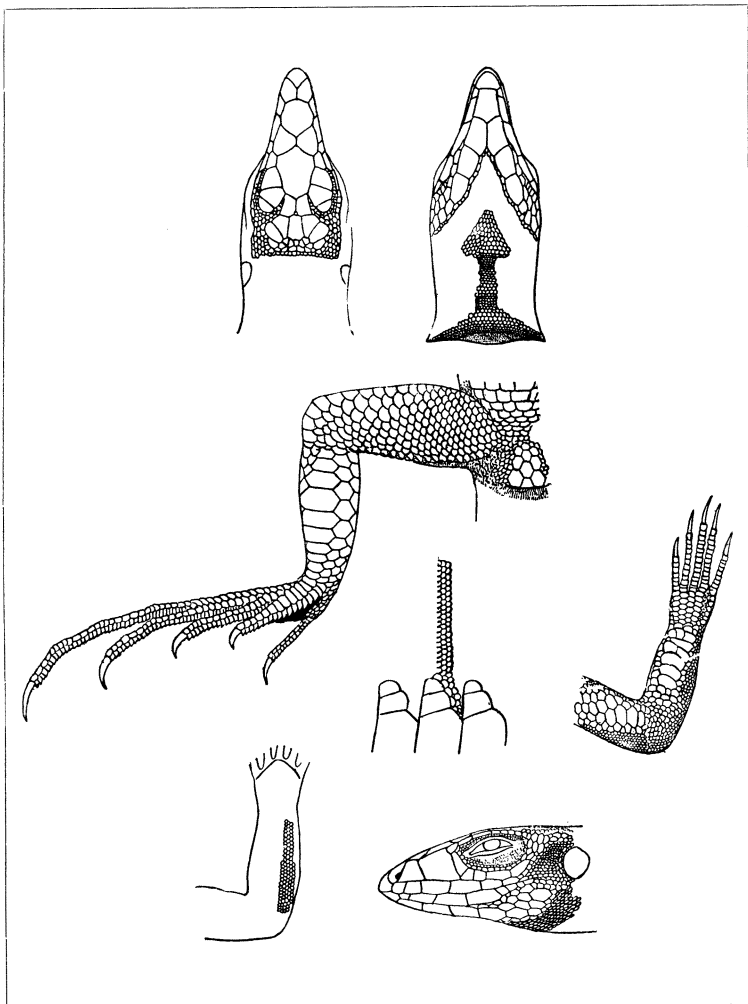
Char. gen.—Tongue cylindric and sheathed at the base; no femoral pores; abdominal scales smooth; a cervical collar fold; tail cylindric. Digits 5-5.

This form is identical with *Amiva*, except in the absence of femoral pores. *Monoplocus* Gthr. has no femoral pores, but the tongue is not sheathed, and the abdominal scales are keeled.

Char. specif.—The squamous surface of the tongue is ovate posteriorly and not notched. The apex of the tongue is deeply bifurcate. The teeth of the maxillary bone are compressed, and have a principal compressed apex, and one or two denticles of the edges near the base. The rosettes of scales, which in other genera surround the femoral pores, are present, but the pores are absent.

The animal is about the size of the *Amiva corvina* Cope. The dorsal scales are minute, measuring .02 mm. The abdominal plates are in twelve longitudinal and thirty-two transverse rows. They are smooth, and those of the external row are smaller than the others. The nostril is on the suture between the nasal plates. The parietals are divided into two and sometimes into three plates, the internal of which is wider than the interparietal. The latter is smaller than each frontoparietal. Supra-orbitals, four; supraciliaries, six; no frenoorbital. Head rather elongate and acuminate; labials $\frac{5}{6}$; infralabials, three large and two small, separated from labials by two rows of large scales. A few rows of scales on the middle of the mesopterygium equal those of the gular region, which are a little larger than those of the neck, which are equal to those on the posterior part and edge of the gular fold. The brachial scales are not large, and are in three or four rows, separated by small scales from a few small postbrachial scales near the elbow. The antebrachial scales are not continuous with the brachials, and are in one large external and two or three smaller internal rows. No postantebrachials. Femorals in 13-14 rows; the third from the front large; the posterior six rows not imbricate. Tibial scales in five rows, the external much larger. Anal plates with five or six large marginals, and five in front of them, four arranged round a small central one. Caudal scales narrow, numerous, not oblique, keeled, but not uncinatæ. No spurs.

Color above brown, sometimes with a lead-colored shade. Below lead color, with an olive tinge, to nearly black. A black band from temporal region to above femur present in all the specimens. In three specimens there are traces of one or two brown bands on the middle dorsal region



Tiaporus fuliginosus Cope.

anteriorly ; in one of these also an interrupted black lateral band below the one already described. Below this there are in the same specimen two rows of blackish spots on the sides, the inferior on the lateral ventral scales. In a ♀ there is a row of small pale spots above and below the superior lateral black band.

Total length, 310 mm. ; length to angle of mandible, 30 mm. ; do. to collar, 38 mm. ; do. to axilla, 45 mm. ; do. to vent, 108 mm. ; do. of foreleg, 40 mm. ; do. of forefoot, 17 mm. ; do. of hind leg, 83 mm. ; do. of hind foot, 47 mm.

This remarkable species has no particular resemblance to any known species of *Amiva* or *Cnemidophorus*. Four specimens, No. 14,710 U. S. National Museum Register, from Swan Island in the Caribbean Sea Collected by Charles Townsend.

Swan Island is off the northeastern coast of Honduras, at a distance of about two degrees of latitude. It is about five degrees west by south of Jamaica. It was visited by the U. S. Fish Commission steamer *Albatross*, and Mr. Townsend, the naturalist of the expedition, obtained this species with several others. The present form is related to *Amiva* as *Monoplocus* is to *Centropyx*.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE.

Fig. 1. Head profile : *a*, from above ; *b*, from below ; fig. 2, anterior limb from above ; *b*, forearm from below ; fig. 3, hinder limb with anal region from below ; fig. 4, portion of side of body.